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COUNTRY : USSR

SUBJECT : Soviet Postponement of Resumption of Nuclear
Testing

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Khrushchev told a group of Soviet leaders at a 1 May 1962 celebration that the Presidium of the Central Committee had decided to postpone further Soviet atmospheric or underground nuclear testing for six to eight months. A Soviet general officer who was present quoted Khrushchev's remarks substantially as follows: "Let the wrathful waves of protest by the peoples of the entire world against the American tests fall squarely on the heads of Kennedy and Macmillan. Let all the muck stirred up now by their tests fall on them alone. If the Soviet Union were to initiate a series of tests at present, we would bring the heavy muck down upon ourselves. Let us wait for six months -- we shall take advantage of an appropriate situation and put a different sauce on our tests".

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